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FACTS ABOUT THE BUILDING

AUGUST 1967

NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL LIBRARY
Beltsville, Maryland

FACTS ABOUT NEW BUILDING

LOCATION

Agricultural Research Center, Route 1, Beltsville,
Maryland.

ARCHITECTS

Warner, Burns, Toan, Lunde

STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS

Severud, Perrone, Fischer, Sturm, Conlin, Bandel

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

George Hyman Construction Company

CONTRACT AWARDED

November 10, 1966

ESTIMATED COST

\$7,450,000

ESTIMATED COMPLETION DATE

October 1968

CONSTRUCTION DETAILS

The 15-story tower is of pre-cast concrete and rock-faced brick. Together with the attached two-story wing, it will provide a gross space area of 275,000 square feet.

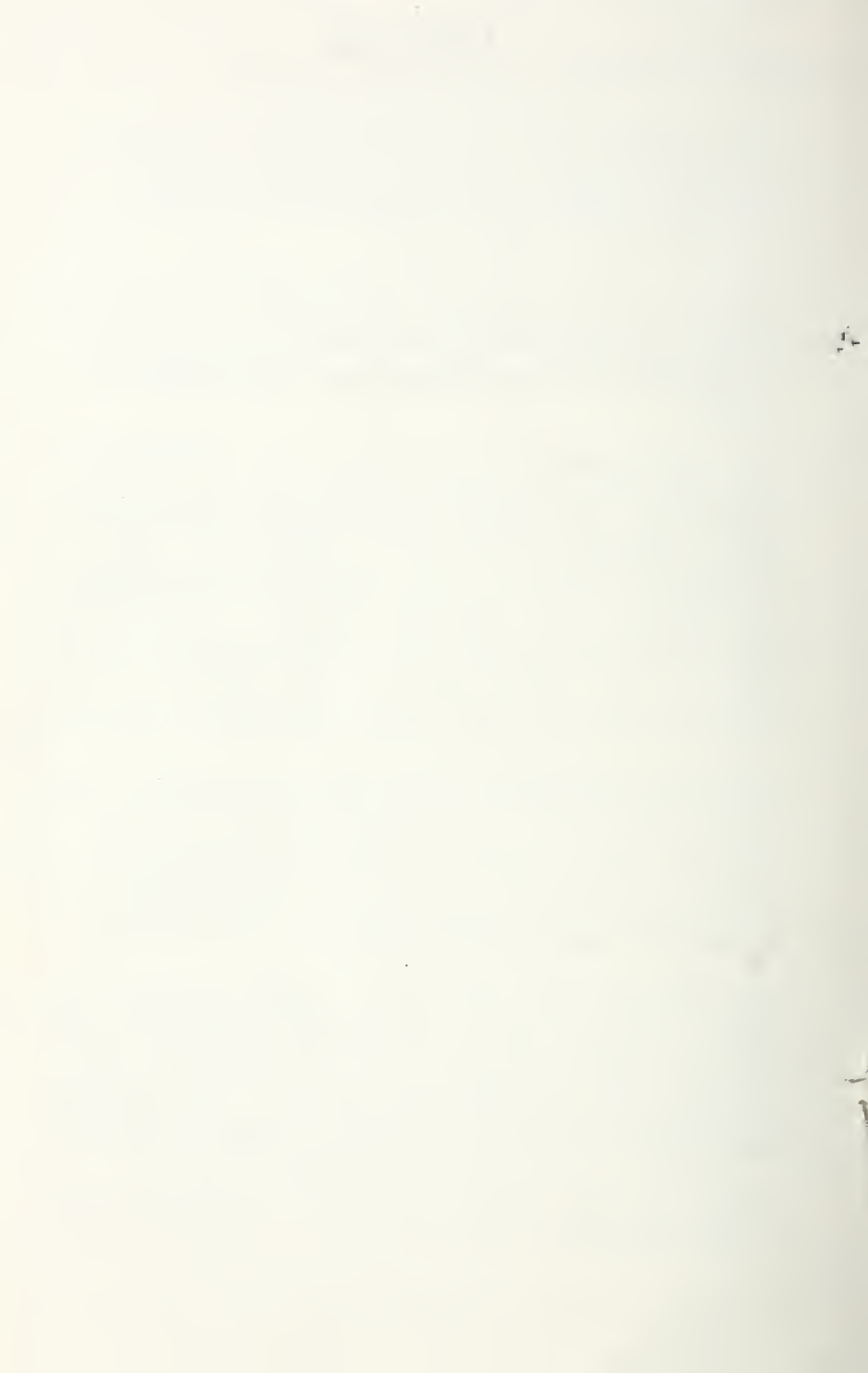
The form of the entire structure expresses the distribution of its main components - the entrance display and public use spaces, the technical and staff areas, the collection, and the general use spaces.

The high element of the building will feature in its lobby and entry area a rare book room, a computer well, and exhibits and displays of Department of Agriculture projects. Stack space for 2,000,000 volumes is provided in the tower from the fourth to the thirteenth floors. It will also contain offices, staff facilities, a partial basement, and on its roof, a concealed utility house. Reading rooms and supporting services will be located in the low wing building.

The tower's exterior reflects the divisions of interior use through its grouping of all vertical services into the cores on east and west faces, which are expressed as unpierced monoliths of brick given scale through discreet modulations of the very large solid surfaces.

With east and west walls solid brick expanses, the tower will have rows of horizontal windows on the other two sides. They, like the front glass entrances, will be framed in aluminum. The low wing building reflects the system of expression of the tower while accenting its horizontability.

Initial parking facilities are planned for a total of 250 vehicles.



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